

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PHNOM 07296 271343Z

51

ACTION SY-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 MMS-03 A-01 PER-05 OC-06 CCO-00

/030 W

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P R 271130Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6251

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PHNOM PENH 7296

DEPT FOR A/SY/FO FROM RSO

HONG KONG FOR RMO AND RSS

SAIGON FOR RMO & RSO

E.O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: PROPOSED MSG T/O REDUCTION - PHNOM PENH

1. AS ADDRESSEES ARE AWARE, THE LEGISLATIVE CEILING ON THE TOTAL NUMBER OF OFFICIAL AMERICANS IN CAMBODIA IMPOSES THE STRICTEST AUSTERITY IN PERSONNEL. IN KEEPING WITH THESE LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS, THE AMBASSADOR HAS TASKED EACH CIVILIAN AND MILITARY SECTION ASSOCIATED WITH THE EMBASSY, WITH THE REEVALUATION OF THEIR OWN PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS.

2. WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION, I WAS TASKED TO REVIEW THE T/O STRENGTH OF OUR MSG DETACHMENT TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF A PERSONNEL REDUCTION. THE REVIEW HAS BEEN CONDUCTED AND THE AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT WE CAN REDUCE OUR DETACHMENT BY ONE WATCHSTANDER WITHOUT A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON OUR SECURITY EFFECTIVENESS. THE REDUCTION WILL INVOLVE THE MODIFICATION OF POST 4 AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE.

3. THE PRIMARY MISSION OF THE MSG DURING THE DAILY 1800 TO 0600 DUTY AT THE RESIDENCE, IS TO INSURE THAT THE HOST GOVERNMENT

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PAGE 02 PHNOM 07296 271343Z

PROTECTIVE FORCES ARE PERFORMING THEIR DUTIES AND TO ADVISE

THE RSO WHEN DEFICIENCIES EXIST. THE MSG DOES NOT STAND DUTY AS A PERSONAL BODY GUARD EXCEPT IN AN EXTREME EMERGENCY. THIS IS A FUNCTION OF THE HOST GOVERNMENT. WITH THIS MISSION IN MIND, A PLANNED MODIFICATION OF EXISTING MSG POSTS CAN INCLUDE A ROVING PATROL OF THE RESIDENCE, FROM THE EMBASSY.

4. THE RESIDENCE HAS BEEN RE-ESTABLISHED AT THE LOCATION OF THE OFFICIAL AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. DISTANCE FROM THE EMBASSY COMPOUND IS APPROXIMATELY 500 METERS. THE RESIDENCE IS LOCATED NEXT TO AND HAS A COMMON WALL WITH THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE PREVOTE MILITAIRE (GESS) WHICH PROVIDES THE RESIDENCE WITH SECURITY.

5. THE POST IS IN FAVOR OF REDUCING THE MSG T/O WITH DUE CONSIDERATION TO THE ABOVE. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, A MODIFICATION OF SECURITY POSTS, WITH ELEVEN WATCHSTANDERS, WILL RESULT IN APPROXIMATELY 42.3 MSG HOURS PER WEEK. THIS FIGURE INCLUDES THE .9 FACTOR. THE T/O REDUCTION COULD BE MADE IN JUNE WHEN TWO OF OUR WATCHSTANDERS ARE DUE FOR REASSIGNMENT.

6. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE T/O REDUCTION IS THE FORMER PROPOSAL THAT COMPANY "E", SAIGON SUPPORT PHNOM PENH IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY SITUATION. WILL SAIGON BE ABLE TO SUPPORT US OR DO WE CONTINUE WITH EMERGENCY REQUESTS DIRECTED TO HONG KONG?

7. THE POST IS ADVISING EA/EX OF THE PERSONNEL REDUCTION PROPOSAL CONTAINED IN THIS EMBTEL IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OVERALL REVIEW OF MISSION STRENGTH. I HAVE FORWARDED A COPY OF MY MEMORANDUM RELATIVE TO THIS SUBJECT, TO SY/FO UNDER REGISTRATION NO. 1908560.

8. IN SUMMARY, I CONCUR WITH THE DESIRES OF THE POST AND WILL INSURE NO LOSS IN SECURITY EFFECTIVENESS NOR INTEGRITY.
DEAN

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